



## CATEX CHECKLIST

CHECKLIST OF EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES & SENSITIVE RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF A CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CATEX) DETERMINATION FOR A DENALI COMMISSION PROJECT

<b>Program Partner Name</b> City of Kiana		<b>Project Name</b> Kiana - Installation of Flexible Water and Wastewater Service Connections	
<b>Location</b> Kiana, Alaska		<b>Project #</b> AN 18-JD8 / Denali Commission Grant 1534	<b>Subproject #</b>
<b>Identify Categorical Exclusion</b> The proposed project is identified in the Denali Commission list of categorical exclusions in 45 CFR Appendix A to Part 900, paragraph(s) B1. Upgrade, repair, maintenance, replacement or minor renovations and additions to buildings...equipment, and other facilities...that do not result in a change in the functional use of the real property.			
<b>Project Description (2-3 sentences maximum)</b> Replace failed water and wastewater service connections for three homes in Kiana.			
<b>Instructions</b> The information you provide below will assist the Denali Commission in making its determination as to whether a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) is appropriate or further environmental analysis is required for the proposed project. Please place a checkmark in the blank next to the numbered items indicating your response on that issue. A checkmark in the "Yes" block does not automatically preclude the development of the proposed project. It simply means further assessment is needed. Should you have any remarks that may indicate the need to prepare an Environmental Analysis (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), attach a brief explanation of the circumstances for further evaluation. Adverse affects to environmentally sensitive resources must be resolved through another environmental process, e.g., coordination or consultation under the Coastal Zone Management Act or National Historic Preservation Act, before being categorically excluded. Attachments are allowed and encouraged.			
Extraordinary Circumstances	Determination		Basis for determination
	Yes	No	
<b>1. Public Health, Safety or Environment</b> Will the proposed project have a reasonably likelihood of significant impacts on public health, public safety, or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is typical in scope to other Alaska sanitation projects. Replacing failed water and wastewater service connections will beneficially impact public health, safety and environment by providing potable water and sanitary sewage disposal for 3 homes.
<b>2. Controversy on Environmental Grounds</b> Will the proposed project have effects on the environment that are likely to be highly controversial or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project complies with all applicable laws and requirements and will have the appropriate regulatory approvals. Any impacts will be short-term and minor, lasting the duration of construction. The project is not controversial and does not involve unresolved conflicts.

<b>3. Uncertain, Unique or Unknown Risks</b> Will the proposed project have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain, involve unique or unknown risks, or are scientifically controversial?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project does not use methods or material with uncertain, unique or unknown risks. There will be beneficial impacts on the human environment from replacing 3 failed service connections.
<b>4. Precedent for Future Action</b> Will the proposed action establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is typical in scope to other Alaska sanitation projects. This project does not establish a precedent for future actions. There are no significant current or future environmental effects associated with the project.
<b>5. Cumulative Impacts</b> Will the proposed project relate to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Replacing 3 service connections will not cause cumulative impacts or result in degradation of environmental concerns as outlined in NEPA.
<b>6. Scope and Size</b> Will the proposed project have a greater size and scope than is normal for the category of action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project does not have a greater size or scope than other rural Alaska sanitation projects.
<b>7. Environmental Conditions</b> Will the proposed project have the potential to degrade already existing poor environmental conditions or to initiate a degrading influence, activity or effect in areas not already significantly modified from their natural condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project will benefit the environment by providing a service connection for sewage disposal. It will not degrade existing conditions or initiate a degrading influence.
<b>8. Environmental Justice</b> Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?  Ref: Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project will benefit low income and minority populations in Kiana by providing clean drinking water and sanitary disposal of sewage for 3 households.
<b>9. Indian Sacred Sites</b> Will the proposed project limit access to or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites? (EO 13007)  <i>"Indian tribe" means an Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe pursuant to Public Law No. 103-454, 108 Stat. 4791, and "Indian" refers to a member of such an Indian tribe. (EO 13007)</i>  Ref: Executive Order 13007, Indian Sacred Sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See no. 10.
<b>Sensitive Resources</b>	Impact Potential		Basis for determination
	Yes	No	



<p><b>10. Section 106 Historic Properties</b></p> <p>Will the proposed project adversely affect properties in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places?</p> <p>Ref: National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), as amended. (See 36 CFR 800, Protection of Historic Properties).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Consultation is required. The locations of the project Area of Potential Effect were evaluated previously and received a State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurrence with an agency finding of no historic properties affected on July 26, 2016 (SHPO File no. 3130-1R IHS 2016-01058. No further evaluation is needed for this concern.</p>
<p><b>11. Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Will the proposed project adversely affect species listed, or proposed to be listed on the Endangered or Threatened Species List, or the specific critical habitat?</p> <p>Ref: Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), as amended. (See 50 CFR part 402).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>A Section 7 Consultation with USFWS performed on 1/9/2018 (Consultation 07CAFB00-2018-SLI-0045, Event Code 07CAFB00-2018-E-00146) indicates polar bears are listed under the Endangered Species Act as threatened and may occur in the project area. Polar bears occur in northwestern Alaska, but generally offshore on sea ice or along the coast. Although individuals occasionally move inland from the coast, it is very rare for polar bears to move as far inland as Kiana. Given the low probability polar bears would occur in or near the project area, the effects on polar bears would be discountable. The project takes place within the boundary of the existing village. Therefore, the project will have No Effect on polar bears. If a polar bear is observed near the project area during construction, construction will stop and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and ANTHC Environmental Staff must be notified immediately. There is no designated critical habitat in the project area; there would be No Effect to critical habitat.</p>
<p><b>12. Historic or Cultural Resources</b></p> <p>Will the proposed action adversely impact the historic and cultural environment of the Nation?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>See no. 10.</p>

Ref: Executive Order 11593, Protection and enhancement of the cultural environment.			
<b>13. Park, Recreation or Refuge Lands</b> Will the proposed project have significant adverse direct or indirect effects on National or State Park, Recreation or Refuge lands?  Ref: Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), as amended.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The community of Kiana is southwest of the Kobuk Valley National Park, south of Noatak National Preserve, and north of the Selawik National Wildlife Refuge boundary. Construction activities will occur within the boundary of the community and will not adversely affect the National Park, Preserve or Refuge.
<b>14. Wilderness Areas</b> Will the proposed project adversely impact a wilderness area?  Ref: Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), as amended.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kiana is not located in a wilderness area in Alaska.
<b>15. Wild and Scenic Rivers</b> Is the proposed project a "Water Resources Project" that will impact a wild, scenic or recreational river area and create conditions inconsistent with the character of the river?  Ref: Wild & Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.), as amended.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Portions of the Kobuk River near the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve are designated wild and scenic. However, there are no Wild and Scenic Rivers or recreational rivers designated near the project area.
<b>16. National Natural Landmarks</b> Will the proposed project impact a National Natural Landmark?  Ref: Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.), as amended.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kiana is not located in or near a National Natural Landmark. There will be no impacts.
<b>17. Sole Source Aquifers</b> If the proposed action would not have adverse effects on this resource, it may be considered that there is no Impact Potential.  Ref: Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, (42 U.S.C. 201, 300 et seq., and 21 U.S.C. 349), as amended. (See 40 CFR part 149).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the EPA website, as of 08/05/04, there are no sole source aquifers in Alaska.
<b>18. Prime Farmlands</b> Will the proposed project convert significant agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses?  Ref: Farmlands Protection Policy Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), as amended. (See 7 CFR part 658).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Designated Soils of National or State Importance have not been made in Alaska, although the Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and Kenai and Homer Soil and Water Conservation Districts have adopted criteria for Farmlands/Soils of Local Importance for lands within their jurisdictional boundaries. This project will not occur in any of these locations and will not convert agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses.

<p><b>19. Wetlands</b></p> <p>Will the proposed project adversely affect wetlands or will there be construction in wetlands, except in conformance with a U.S. Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit?</p> <p>Ref: Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>As of 1/9/2018, digital wetland data for Kiana is not available from the USFWS National Wetland Inventory. A review of aerial photos show homes in Kiana are not located in wetlands. If the location of the service connections for the three homes is later determined to be in wetlands, the project would be permitted under NWP 3 for maintenance, and a PCN to the USACE is not required.</p>
<p><b>20. Floodplains</b></p> <p>Will the proposed project involve construction in a floodplain or impact floodplain development?</p> <p>Ref: Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>The Federal Emergency Management Agency has not mapped floodplains in Kiana. According to 2017 USACE floodplain data for Kiana, the community is located on a bluff. The Blankenship Store, the second lowest building in the community, has not flooded since construction in 1935. The highest recordable flood was several feet below the store. Based on this information, homes in the village are not within the 100-year floodplain.</p>
<p><b>21. National Monuments</b></p> <p>Will proposed project impact a National Monument?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Kiana is not located near a National Monument. No impacts will occur.</p>
<p><b>22. Ecologically Significant or Critical Areas</b></p> <p>Will the proposed project impact an ecologically significant or critical area?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Minor ground disturbing activities will occur during replacement of the service connections to 3 homes. The homes are located within the footprint of the village. No impacts will occur to ecologically significant or critical areas.</p>
<p><b>23. Other Known Reasons</b></p> <p>Is an environmental assessment required for other known reasons?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>An environmental assessment is not required. The project</p>


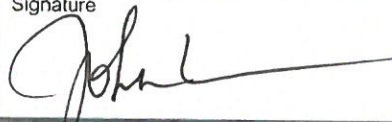


**Additional Comments**

- Dispose of solid waste generated by this project in the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) -permitted Kiana Landfill (SW3A142-20, expires June 30, 2020).
- As of 1/9/2018, there are six active contaminated sites in Kiana: Kiana High School Former Tank Farm on Casonoff Street, City of Kiana Former Tank Farm on Cemetary Lane, Kiana AVEC Former Tank Farm on Cemetary Lane, Kiana Elementary School Former Tank Far on Taylor Road, Kiana Trading Post Former Retail Fuel Tanks on Hill Street, and Kiana AVEC Power Plant Tank Farm on Cemetary Lane. The AKARANG Kiana FSA near the southeast end of the airport runway and south of dump road was issued a cleanup complete determination. A figure showing the active and closed sites is provided. The ADEC spill database lists five sites: Kiana Water Treatment Plant Diesel Release (active), Kiana AVEC Overfill at the Kiana City Tank Farm (closed), Kiana School Vandalized Fuel Line (closed), Lee Stahelei Residence Willow Street Day Tank Vandalism (closed), and City of Kiana Bulk Fuel Terminal (transferred to Contaminated Sites).

Before any ground disturbance occurs, the Project Manager will review the contaminated sites map and databases to determine whether ground disturbance will occur near an active contaminated site or an area where residual contamination from a closed site may be encountered. If excavation is proposed near an active contaminated site, ADEC will be contacted and planning will occur for disposing of potential contaminated soil and groundwater. Excavation dewatering within 1,500 feet of an active contaminated site will require authorization under ADECs Excavation Dewatering General Permit.

- The project will disturb less than 1-acre of ground. Coverage under the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) and completion of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is not required.
- Best management practices will be used to control sedimentation and erosion during and after construction as required by the ADEC.

PREPARED BY		
Date 8/30/2018	Typed or Printed Name and Title Karen Brown, Environmental Manager	Signature 
Organization: ANTHC		
DENALI COMMISSION APPROVING OFFICIAL		
Based upon the categorical exclusion identified above, this completed checklist and attachments, I certify to the best of my knowledge, that the information provided above is complete and correct, and that:		
A categorical exclusion determination is appropriate for this project		Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Further environmental analysis is required		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date 11/04/18	John Whittington Designated Approving Official	Signature 

**Additional Notes and Instructions**

1. The basis for determination and documentation information must be traceable and establish the factual data to support

Printed Materials: These are useful sources of detailed information materials such as comprehensive land use plans, zoning maps, city master plans, environmental baseline surveys, environmental assessments, environmental impact statements and studies. Information must be current and must represent accepted methodologies, i.e., not so old that changing conditions make them irrelevant. Citations for the material should include enough information so that an outside reviewer can locate the specific reference, e.g., author, document title, publication date, and page number.

Examples include the Record of Decision, Finding of Suitability to Transfer, Finding of Suitability to Lease, General Services Administration (GSA) Property Suitability Determination Form, Federal Property Information Checklist, Environmental Baseline Surveys, Preliminary Assessment Reports, Environmental Assessments, draft or final Environmental Impact Statements, and City/County master plan or zoning map.

Possible sources of the above documents include as appropriate, GSA, Department of Housing and Urban Development, the property owner, military base environmental office, local governmental organizations, local public library, and City/County planning office.

Personal Contacts: Personal contacts are useful when the individual contacted is an accepted authority on the subject(s), and the interview is documented. Supporting documentation should include the name, organization, and title of the person contacted and the date of the conversation. Examples include EPA officials, EPA hotlines, officials from state or local planning offices and environmental offices, or an environmental officer of an agency.

Site Visits: A site visit does not usually involve any testing or measurements. A site visit is an important method for initial screening of the issues, but for some of the categories it may be inadequate for final evaluation. Supporting documentation should include date of the site visit, by whom, and the supporting observation.

2. The agency must include pollution prevention considerations in the siting, design, construction, renovation, and operation of the project or facility. The questionnaire items on sedimentation and erosion control measures and storm water control plan are also pollution prevention related.





Water and Wastewater Service Line Replacement - 3 homes in Kiana, Alaska